

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6090**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 91**

**DATE PREPARED:** Nov 19, 2000

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** ISTEP Test Subjects and Time Duration.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Chuck Mayfield

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**FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill provides that the subject areas of English/language arts and mathematics are the only subject areas to be tested under the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP) program. The bill also provides that each ISTEP subject area test may not be longer than two hours in duration.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This bill would reduce the state obligations in the FY 2002-2003 biennium by \$7.5 M, as well as the costs of proctoring and scoring of the tests, as described below.

The estimated cost to develop a subject area test is approximately \$10 M of which a certain percentage is allocated for implementation (including, but not limited to, proctoring and scoring). Under current law, the Department of Education (DOE) is required to administer subject area tests in Social Studies beginning in school year 2002-2003 and Science beginning in school year 2003-2004. DOE is requesting \$7.5 M for the 2001-2003 biennium to develop tests and administer the test to grade five for the 2002-2003 school year.

The bill only allows subject area testing in English/Language Arts and Mathematics, so the Social Studies and Science tests would not be included in the ISTEP Testing program. This bill would reduce the state obligations in the FY 2002-2003 biennium by \$7.5 M.

This bill would also require that subject area tests last no longer than two hours each. According to the DOE, this provision would effectively change the way ISTEP+ is administered (i.e., multiple choice would be required as opposed to short essay). Eliminating the written portion of ISTEP+ would result in a cost savings regarding the proctoring and scoring of subject area tests.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** The bill could result in reducing the workload and time spent by teachers, as well as any associated costs to local schools of administering the tests since the tests cannot be longer than two hours and only two subjects can be tested.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Education.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Local School Corporations

**Information Sources:** Jeff Zaring, Department of Education, 232-6622.